Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Technology, Energy & Communications Committee

HB 1141

Brief Description: Exempting local governments from alternative fuel vehicle requirements.

Sponsors: Representatives Pearson, Kristiansen, McCune and Condotta.

Brief Summary of Bill

• Exempts local governments from the requirement to use 100 percent electricity or biofuel in their fleets by 2015.

Hearing Date: 1/25/11

Staff: Kara Durbin (786-7133).

Background:

In 2007, the Legislature enacted alternative fuel usage requirements for state and local governments. These requirements specify that by 2015, all state agencies and local governments, to the extent practicable as determined by the Department of Commerce, must satisfy 100 percent of their fuel needs for all vessels, vehicles, and construction equipment using electricity or biofuel. The Department of Commerce must adopt rules to define practicability and clarify how state and local governments will be evaluated to determine compliance.

In 2009, an interim alternative fuel usage requirement was adopted for state agencies. By June 1, 2013, state agencies, to the extent practicable as determined by the Department of Commerce, must achieve 40 percent fuel usage from electricity or biofuel for publicly owned vessels, vehicles, and construction equipment.

Summary of Bill:

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This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Local governments are exempt from the requirement to satisfy 100 percent of their fuel needs for all of their vessels, vehicles, and construction equipment using electricity or biofuel.

Statutory references to the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development are changed to the Department of Commerce.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on 1/18/2011.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.